



Bexar Wire

San Antonio Radio Club
W5SC



2020, No. 2

February 2020

Radio Fiesta 2020, Another SARC success story

Radio Fiesta 2020 officially opened Jan 10th at 7am for an unprecedented two day event. While that was the opening, it wasn't the beginning. Rosendo Guzman, N5YBS the club's president started Radio Fiesta 2020 by assembling a team in March 2019 almost a year before the opening. The team consisted of Rosendo, Jeff Boyes, ND8B (Club Treasurer) and Bill Craft, KD2HIQ (club membership chairperson). Rosendo said in one of the early planning sessions that the big vendors wanted a two-day event to make it worth their while to come to San Antonio.

The team decided to try a two-day event for 2020 and set out to contact vendors to support the new format. The team also implemented some other firsts such as using Eventbrite to sell tables and admission tickets online. Implementing that required Bill to learn how to setup the online system and after some trial and error, it went live in July 2019. Vendors started using it immediately, the first being the Sign Guy taking his usual spot of three tables by the front door.

Our next club meeting will be at 7:00 p. m. (1900) on Thursday, February 13, 2020, at Blanco BBQ, 13259 Blanco Road, San Antonio, TX 78216. The program by Harold Fleischer AE5AS will be on Using Gator Box Pro as a Portable Radio Shack



Bad weather forecasts discouraged some vendors, but turnout was still good.

One thing the team wanted to do was to use FREE media to get out the word to both vendors and attendees about Radio Fiesta 2020. Bill Craft, KD2HIQ created several flyers that Rosendo Guzman, N5YBS took to other hamfests to let attendees and vendors know about RF 2020. Bill got the emails of all the ARRL clubs in a 100 mile radius and sent those clubs a PDF version of the flyer. He also asked our ARRL West Gulf Division Director John Robert Stratton N5AUS to send out emails to all of the sections with our RF 2020 information. The team also used craigslist, next door and other media outlets to get the word out about Radio Fiesta.

Rosendo contacted numerous vendors to attend RF 2020 and send door prizes. While we didn't get some of the big vendors to come they did send door prizes and catalogs. In total, we received thirty door prizes ranging in value from \$15 to over \$100 each.

Continued on page 5

SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB PRESIDENT'S RADIOGRAM

NUMBER	PRECEDENCE	HX	STATION OF ORIGIN	CHECK	PLACE OF ORIGIN	TIME FILED	DATE
2	R		N5YBG		San Antonio, TX		Feb.
TO W5SC							
Hello fellow Amateur Radio Operators. Thank you to one and all for the good turnout for the 2020 Radio Fiesta. Even though we had some bad weather on Friday evening, attendance was great on Saturday and everyone had a great time. A big thanks to all of our Vendors and Swap tables for supporting our club. I would like to extend a heart-felt Thank You to each of SARC members who came out to help with this event. Your efforts did not go unnoticed, and to everyone who attended, we thank you for your support. Good Dx <i>Rosendo Guzman</i> N5YBG							

Bexar Wire

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The due date for articles is the **Monday** before the first **Thursday** of the month.

**San Antonio Radio Club
Minutes of January 9, 2020 Club Meeting**

- President called meeting to order at 7:00 PM
- Introductions by President Rosendo Guzman N5UBG
- Minutes of last meeting approved without change or objection by unanimous consent
- Officer Reports
 - President
 - Primary purpose of the meeting is Radio Fiesta 2020
 - Announced appointments of positions
 - Newsletter Editor: Jimmie Neff WJ4M
 - Webmaster: Bill Craft KD2HIQ
 - Education and Training: David Finell N7LRY
 - Emergency Communications: Joe Bruno W5AUQ
 - Executive: Harold Fleischer AE5AS (per Constitution)
 - Finance and Review: Paul Guido N5IUT
 - Field Day: Joe Bruno W5AUQ
 - JOTA: John Douglas W5NZK
 - Membership: Bill Craft KD2HIQ
 - Nominating: Inactive, no appointments
 - Radio Fiesta: Bill Craft, Jeff Boyes, Joe Bruno, and Rosendo Guzman
 - VEC: Pat Knight AD5BR
 - Centennial: Tom O'Brien AB5XZ
 - Vice President - Lloyd Swartz KF5ZHW
 - Announced future training program by Harold Fleischer AE5AS: Using Gator Box as a go-kit.
 - Proposed limiting presentation time for future presentations to 20 minutes, with a warning at five minutes remaining. Harold Fleischer AE5AS and other members offered opinions on the proposal, and it was deferred to the Board of Directors for a decision.
 - Secretary - Jack Bannin N5JLB
 - Announced that minutes from previous meetings are posted on the club's web-site.
 - Treasurer – Jeff Boyes ND8B
 - Provided November and December 2019 Treasurer's report
 - Webmaster – Bill Craft KD2HIQ
 - Website's membership page updated, and 2020 club membership form posted
 - Added to website Radio Fiesta volunteers' task times/assignments
 - For Groups.io, updated donated SK inventory list with pictures and pricing
 - Noted the use of the web application MailChimp for mass emails related to meeting notices, holiday party, New Year, volunteer signup
 - Twitter: sent tweets about Christmas party, Radio Fiesta vendors, volunteer sign-up
 - Facebook statistics: Page Views 137 37%, People reached down 5%
 - Website statistics: Sessions 768, up 51% vs. previous 30 days. Page views 1810 up 45% vs. previous 30 days. New visitors: 62%, returning visitors: 38%. Device breakdown: Desktop 57%, Tablet 5%, Mobile 38%

Meeting Minutes (Continued)

- Membership – Bill Craft KD2HIQ
 - As of December 30, 2019 148 paid members, 50 free members, 12 family members. Total members: 210, 50 of which are ARRL members. Encouraged ARRL membership.
- Education and Training – David Finell N7LRY
 - No report
- Emergency Communications – Joe Bruno W5AUQ
 - No report
- Finance and Review – Paul Guido N5IUT
 - No report
- JOTA – John Douglas W5NZK
 - Announced site for next year's JOTA has been set
 - Council-wide camp-out scheduled for 2/28/20 – 3/1/20 in Hunt, TX
 - Requested to be loaned tube-type radio equipment for an event
- Silent Key Committee – Bill Craft KD2HIQ
 - Inventory of equipment completed
 - Taking some items to Radio Fiesta to sell
 - Harold Fleischer, AE5AS - Joe's van is loaded and ready for Radio Fiesta
- President's Message – Rosendo Guzman N5YBG
 - Overnight parking at Schertz Civic Center approved for Radio Fiesta
 - Began discussion with Schertz Civic Center (Sarah Salazar) re: January 8 and 9, 2021 dates for next year's Radio Fiesta
 - Bill Craft KD2HIQ set up tables for Radio Fiesta, not yet able to test A/V equipment. Will test Friday AM
 - Bill Craft KD2HIQ added additional information about the upcoming Radio Fiesta and answered questions from the membership about the same
- VE Team – Pat Knight AD5BR
 - Pat was not present, but provided a report that was read by the Secretary Jack Bannin N5JLB. She expressed gratitude to VEs and Great Northwest Library for 2019 contributions, announced license test scheduled during Radio Fiesta at Schertz Civic Center gym at 1:30 PM on January 11, 2020.
 - Next regular VE sessions for 2020 will be 2/22, 4/25, 6/27, 8/22, and 10/24. Regular sessions start at 10:00 AM at the Great Northwest Library, 9050 Wellwood, in San Antonio. For questions or pre-registration, email hamtest@gmail.com.
- Centennial Commemoration (Temporary) – Tom O'Brien AB5XZ
 - Centennial coins, pins, patches available for sale at the meeting and at Radio Fiesta
 - Will be sending QSL cards to contacts made during the four 2019 on-air centennial events
- Old Business: None
- New Business: None
- Announcements from membership
- Meeting adjourned at 7:42 PM



Volunteer Examiners at Work



This is the February 2020 Bexar Wire report for the VE team.

We started 2020 with a January VE session at the Radio Fiesta in Schertz. Four candidates earned the Technician license and one earned a General upgrade. Congratulations! Thank you to all the Volunteer Examiners who helped.

Our next regular VE session will be held on February 22 at 10 AM at the Great Northwest Library, 9050 Wellwood.

Contact the VE team at hamtest@gmail.com to pre-register for testing or with any questions.

73,

Pat Knight AD5BR

210-273-5927 iPhone

Radio Fiesta (Continued)

We did sell out all of our vendor tables (37) and all but four flea market tables (73). This year we had an additional ten tables in the Blue Bonnet room for non- electronics vendors and only four of those tables sold.



Pat Knight AD5BR, Jonathan Keiser AG5SY, Sarah Keiser AG5TJ and Daniel Keiser N3DXL maned the pre-registered check-in Saturday

The weather forecast for Friday called for very bad weather, thunderstorms, high winds, damaging hail and tornados. Fortunately, the worst of that weather bypassed Schertz, but it did prevent several vendors from attending.

In total 32 members and 3 nonmembers volunteered to make this a successful event. Many thanks to all those who helped and gave up doing something else to ensure that Radio Fiesta 2020 went off smoothly.

Richard Elder, WB5ACN, ran the SARC Club Sales Table as well as some of his own tables. Joe Bruno, W5AUQ, assisted him in this endeavor. SARC had many items that it wanted to move from the Silent Key acquisitions. Richard, WB5ACN, and Joe, W5AUQ, did not move all of them, but they did move a substantial number and netted over seven hundred dollars for SARC in the process.

We had four seminars over in the Gym, Tom O'Brien AB5XZ – History and Design of the Yagi-Uda Antenna and Greg Lewis, N5XO, about VHF/UHF weak signals. ARES Forum South Texas Section Emergency Coordinator conducted the ARES forum and ARRL Forum by John Robert Stratton, N5AUS, Director of the West Gulf Division.

Harold Fleischer, AE5AS, used his laptop to get the Schertz Convention Center video projector operational in the Gym for the programs in that space. Except for a foray

to take picture, he stayed there as the support person for the program in that area until 1 pm

While the hall was winding down around noon, the license examination part of Radio Schertz was just getting started at the Schertz Public Library. About five people took amateur radio license exams offered by SARC's Volunteer Examiner Committee. They were four trying to get the Technician license and one to upgrade to General. This activity continued to 2:30 p.m., which is a half hour after the end of the Radio Fiesta in the Schertz Civic Center.



Rafael Garza XE2OR from Mexico with SARC President Rosendo Guzman N5YBG



Barbara Gilbert KC5GFR, John Stratton N5AUS (West Gulf Division Director), Mary Eichner, Paul Gilbert KE5ZW

Saturday at 1:00 p. m., the last of the door prizes winners were drawn followed by the Grand Raffle Prize winner. None of the Grand Raffle Prize winners were present

Jeff called the winners and let them know they won; Paul Guido made sure to drive back and pick up his new radio before we all left.



Grand prize winner Paul Guido N5IUT

Winners of Grand Prizes

1st- N5IUT- Paul Guido

2nd W5CWP Pape, Chester W

3rd.-KG5UBQ- Smitley Sr, Daniel R

Since this was our big fundraiser of the year, the big question is, did we make any money? According to our Treasurer, Jeff Boyes, ND8B we almost made three times the amount we made last year. The biggest savings was not using snail mail and using all electronic media.



Drawing for the Grand Pr

Winners of Door Prizes	
K5YCA- HARVEY N MITCHELL, II	KG5USB- James J Bell
N5CU- David Chavez	NU5P- BENJAMIN A MARTINEZ
KG5IYI- Phillip R Oles	KA5IID- Stanley T Stanukinos
AB5XZ- THOMAS P O BRIEN, JR	KC3MVS- Peter J Carpenter
W5GDI- GARY D IRONS	WB3ACN - ?
KK5LD- James D Clark	N4DCA- RICHARD A ROUDEBUSH
AD5TC-Bill Carter	NQ2V- Crystalyn I Keiser
K5MUG- Cray D Lester, Sr	KG5UTV- Gil, Marvin H
KG5WTX- Woodall, Jeffery D	WJ4M-Jimmie Neff
WB5ACN-Richard Elder	

More on Radio Fiesta

The club bought three grand prizes and vendors donated nineteen items. Friday we did three door prize drawings (one every hour) and Saturday we had a drawing every half hour starting at 9am. Some of the vendor donated items we worth over \$100.

Friday's attendance was somewhat down because of people not getting off work, Saturday's attendance was better.

We almost sold completely out of tables only 2 tables were left in the main ballroom. Only three of the Blue Bonnet Room tables sold, and they moved to the main ballroom on Saturday.

Thursday Rosendo, Bill and Bill's wife Cindy covered the tables with vinyl. Rosendo's dog Holly also helped by entertaining us by chasing a ball around the room.

Lots of club members helped on Friday and Saturday to make the event a success.

Friday, Bill, KD2HIQ brought his wife (Cindy) and her friends (Richard and Aracely) to help with pre-registered admission tickets. Tom Hirte and David, KG5KPB worked admissions sales. Jimmie, WJ4M was lead on using the new Eventbrite check-in procedure using donated android phones as scanners. Lloyd set about separating wristbands for admissions. Joe, KD0ABJ and Mitchel, KG5YIL took on the task to prepping door prize tickets into pre-counted stacks and selling them. Emilo, AG5QP did double duty of door prize tickets an security. Ken, AA5LV, John,

W5NZK, Harold, AE5AS provided security while Brian, WB5DRI helped Bill, KD2HIQ with membership. Joe, W5AUQ and Richard, WB5ACN operated the club sales table.

Saturday, people lined up before the doors opened at 7am. All the volunteers went to their stations and quickly and efficiently checked in vendors and attendees.

Saturday Pat Knight, AD5BR had her team of VE help with attendance and security, Tom, AB5XZ did a presentation on antennas in the gymnasium. ARES and ARRL Forums followed with Greg Lewis, N5XO, presentation on VHF/UHF Weak Signals.

At 1pm the Grand prizes were drawn and with none of the winners present. Paul Guido received many texts to his surprise congratulating him on his win of the grand prize before Jeff, ND8B could notify him.

Paul wasted no time in returning to claim his prize; he did say however that he didn't plan to have radio on the air by Saturday night. He mumbled something about "honey do" list taking priority.

The Samuel Clemens Cheer Boosters did a great job on Friday and Saturday in having plenty of hot coffee and beverages as well as many snack selections. Saturday they even had breakfast taco's available.

All-in-all the event went well and most volunteers and attendees were able to find just what they always wanted in parts and equipment. The vendors reported that they were pleased with the results and the venue.

those who graciously gave up the sleep time to help the club.



Groups.io

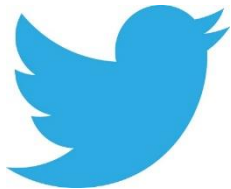


SARC has had a Groups.io. Its name is saradioclub.

The saradioclub Group.io is being used to publicize SARC business meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes. Members of the saradioclub Group.io can and have asked each other technical questions or sought assistance.

The saradioclub Group.io is a closed group. To become a member, go to saradioclub.groups.io. (You may need to have a Groups.io account.) You will then need to select *Apply for membership in this group*. This generates a message. SARC members can expect approval to join the saradioclub Group.io in probably less than 24 hours.

SARC Tweets



Reminder: there are two active Twitter accounts for the San Antonio Radio Club. They are @SARadioClub and @ARadioFiesta.

The @SARadioClub is being used to publicize SARC meetings. It can be used for other things like promotion of VEC testing and classes.

When work again commences the @ARadioFiesta will be used for the January, 2021 Radio Fiesta.

SARC members are encouraged to follow both Twitter accounts.

SARC Facebook



There is a San Antonio Radio Club – SARC (@saradioclub) Facebook Page.

The newsletter editor is making posts about SARC meetings and other activities. Any Officer, Committee Chairperson, or member who believes that they have information that should be posted to this page should contact the newsletter editor using the contact information for the newsletter editor on page 2 of this newsletter.

SARC members are encouraged to follow this Facebook Page

SARC SLACK



There is a San Antonio Radio Club Slack team – w5sc.slack.com.

Slack teams are meant to foster communication between team members. Paul Guido, N5IUT, has established the w5sc.slack.com team for SARC. He has also established some channels. Think of the channels as topical areas.

To join send an email to Paul Guido, N5IUT, at radioteacher@gmail.com. In actuality, any team member already a part of the w5sc.slack.com can invite you, but Paul is known to be on it.

SARC has a website:

w5sc.org

Webmaster: Bill Craft KD2HIQ
Billc851@gmail.com
210-233-8863

Amateur Radio License Classes

Multiple classes planned for 2020.

For more information, contact:
David Finell, N7LRY
Instructor

SARC Meeting Dates for 2020

January 9, 2020
February 13, 2020
March 12, 2020
April 9, 2020
May 14, 2020
June 11, 2020
July 9, 2020
August 13, 2020
September 10, 2020
October 8, 2020
November 12, 2020
December – No meeting

Meetings are held at Blanco BBQ, 13259
Blanco Rd, San Antonio, TX 78216 at 7:00
p. m. Room is available at 6:00 p. m. for
supper.

Come early and eat with other members
coming early.

License Testing Dates for 2020

February 22, 2020
April 25, 2020
June 27, 2020
August 22, 2020
October 24, 2020

Times and locations along with required
document information can be found on
SARC's website.

SARC does all of its licensing testing as a
part of ARRL Volunteer Examiner Coordi-
nator (VEC) organization so all of the Vol-
unteer Examiners in SARC are duly author-
ized Volunteer Examiners of ARRL's VEC.

JOTA

Boy Scout Jamboree On The Air

This year's date is Oct 16-18, 2020.

More information will be available as the
date draws closer.

Radio Fiesta 2021

January , 2021
To be announced
See website w5sc.org for more information

Emergency Communications

If you are interested in emergency commu-
nications, contact:
JC Smith N5RXS

Field Day 2020

Setup: Friday, June 26, 2020
Operations: Saturday, June 27, 2020
& Sunday, June 28, 2020

*Where SARC proves they are an
eating group with a radio problem.*

More information to follow, but hold these
dates.